Dr. D. HACK TUKE then read a paper, entitled, "A Retrospective Glance at the Early History of the Retreat, its Objects and Influence" (see Original Articles).

Dr. BAKER moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Tuke for his kindness in presiding.

Mr. FRYER seconded, and Mr. JOSEPH ROWNTREE supported the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN having responded, the proceedings became of a conversational character, and shortly afterwards terminated.

AFTER-CARE ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Association for the After-Care of Poor and Friendless Female Convalescents on leaving Asylums for the Insane was held at the Colney Hatch Asylum, by kind permission of the Visiting Committee, on June 1st, 1892, and proved a successful occasion.

Dr. HACK TUKE took the Chair, and observed that it is thirteen years ago, on the 5th of this month, since the first meeting was held at the house of Dr. Bucknill to consider whether an Association should be formed, having for its object the "*After-Care" of Poor and Friendless Female Convalescents on leaving Asylums for the Insane.* A paper was read in its support by the Chaplain to the Colney Hatch Asylum, Mr. Hawkins, and the decision was arrived at that such an Association should be immediately formed. Those who wish to understand the motives that led to this step being taken—one that everyone could foresee would involve a large amount of time and thought—cannot do better than read Mr. Hawkins' paper. The following passage may be quoted now. "Those whose need is sorest are patients—young and middle-aged women, without relatives or friends; wives deserted by their husbands, widows, single persons in various callings, as governesses, sempstresses, shopwomen, domestic servants, employés of different kinds, who, after treatment in asylums, having sufficiently recovered to justify their discharge, have no relatives or friends to receive them, no home to return to, no situation or employment awaiting them in which they can earn their bread." "Those who are familiar with the inmates of public asylums will probably be able to call to mind cases of female convalescents whose actual dismissal, though warranted by the state of their health, is delayed—postponed from month to month because they have no friend who can or will undertake their charge on their first return to the world. Some may be literally friendless, others are estranged from their parents, or so remote from them as to be beyond reach of their assistance. The friends of others are sometimes so poorly lodged as to be unable to receive, even for a limited period, an additional inmate into their rooms. In some cases, it is to be feared, relatives would be better pleased that the convalescent should find in the asylum a *permanent* abode, than that she should leave it and so possibly become more or less burthensome to themselves" ("Jour. Ment. Sci.," Oct., 1879). Now it is important to recognize the fact that the real proposer of this Association (Mr. Hawkins) and those who took the initiative in forming it were or have been intimately associated with public asylums, and in recommending that an After-Care Association should be formed, were practically acquainted with the needs of patients discharged therefrom. It is clear, therefore, that if this Association fails for want of material, it has either been ill-advised and misled by the very men who ought to know most about the subject, or we fail to reach the class we wish to benefit as much as we should do. Dr. Bucknill, Dr. Lockhart Robertson, Dr. Claye Shaw, and Dr. Savage were not likely to advise the step which we then took without knowing and feeling from practical experience that there was a real need for this Association, on pecuniary and moral grounds, which it was decided to attempt to supply. We also know that Lord Shaftesbury wrote

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.38.162.462 Published online by Cambridge University Press

"*the subject has long been on my mind,*" and he would not have so written had not a number of cases come to his knowledge which stood in need of kindly care and help during the interval between leaving the gates of the asylum and entering once more upon the duties and avocations of life. Further, I would point out that since the establishment of this Society not a few medical men continually engaged in public asylum life have urged the importance of supporting the objects which it has in view. Why I thus refer to the history of the Association is to show that it was *founded by practical men*, and was the *outcome of a practical want*. It is well to revive this fact from time to time, as we wish to do to-day, and there is an obvious appropriateness in our meeting at *this* asylum, seeing that it was from it that the proposal to found this Association really emanated. In view of these facts it has all along been evident to me that the superintendents of county asylums and the guardians of the poor must place themselves in close relationship with the "After-Care Association," and be good enough to take some little trouble in supplying us with the necessary information in regard to the nature and character of cases likely to be benefited by having help extended to them by the funds and the cottage homes which this Association supplies. Without this it is obvious that the wants of convalescent patients will not be brought to our knowledge, and the Association may languish, not for lack of funds, but for *want of material being brought within their reach*. This would be a lamentable result, and another event would be equally deplorable, the application of needy cases suitable for care and help, but relapsing into mental derangement for want of the interest of the public, from whom we must derive the sinews of war. The object of such a meeting as this is, therefore, *twofold*, having reference to both *demand* and *supply*, and it is to be hoped that these objects will be advanced by our meeting here to-day.

The Secretary, Mr. H. THORNHILL ROXBY, gave a statement of cases relieved, especially from the Colney Hatch Asylum, which showed that a large amount of good had been effected since the Association was established.

It was proposed by Dr. RAYNER, "That this meeting, approving the objects and work of the After-Care Association, engages, as far as practicable, to promote them." Dr. Rayner said that they had heard from their Chairman the history and objects of the Association, and their Secretary had given interesting examples of the work done by it. They could have no doubt, therefore, of the necessity for such an Association or of the ample scope for its operations. Dr. Tuke had quoted that from one asylum the estimate was given that nearly one-fifth of the females discharged recovered were suitable objects for such assistance. Now there were discharged recovered last year from the English Pauper Asylums 3,000 women. A fifth of them would give a total of 600 needing help. From this, however, considerable deductions had to be made. In the more rural parts of the country the proportion would probably be much less. The difficulty of the Association at the present time was to get into communication with these discharged patients, and to this end it was necessary to obtain the sympathy and co-operation of those who had the care and treatment of them, it being almost impossible to appeal directly to the sufferers for obvious reasons. It was, therefore, necessary to keep the medical officers and committees of asylums and guardians of the poor interested in the Association, and informed of its increasing ability and experience in rendering assistance. This was a very important part of the work of the Association, but, besides this, it was necessary to obtain the aid of ladies in various parts of the country, who would recommend suitable cottage homes for the boarding-out of cases, and take a share in the supervision and finding suitable employment or situations for them. And, lastly, but not least, help was needed in increasing the funds of the Association.

Mr. J. PEEKE RICHARDS, late Medical Superintendent of the Female Department of Hanwell Asylum, said he felt some little diffidence in seconding the resolution proposed, from the fact that for some years after the Association was

https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.38.162.462 Published online by Cambridge University Press

formed he had not been a member or given it his support, as he had experienced but little difficulty in providing for the friendless female patients who were discharged convalescent from the Hanwell Asylum. Of late he had altered his views, and he believed that the Association would meet a great want, more especially in providing suitable homes for those convalescent patients belonging to the middle classes, who from misfortune were not able to be placed in private asylums, but had to be classed as paupers in the county institutions. These were the people who required help, and he could not help expressing the opinion that at the present time, when so much was being done for the working classes by the legislature, etc., that they were able to look after themselves, but that the reduced middle classes were those that required more especially our sympathy and support. He suggested to the ladies present at the meeting that they should each try a discharged convalescent patient as a domestic servant in their own households—not as was so frequently, he feared, done—those who professed themselves interested in the after-care of these friendless convalescents asked some friend to take them, but would not venture on the trial themselves. Mrs. Richards had herself taken a patient into her household and with marked success. He cordially seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Dr. SEWARD, in proposing the next resolution, expressed the hope that a local branch of the After-Care Association might be able to do much good, not only by contributing to the funds, but especially by helping to find openings for convalescents, which would enable them to return to a life of usefulness. Having under his care in the Colney Hatch Asylum more than 1,300 female patients, he had been much impressed by the necessity which exists for such an organization as this Association, and by the excellent work it is already doing in a quiet and unostentatious way. From the four asylums of the London County alone, about 400 women are discharged every year. It may be safely estimated, at least, that about one-tenth of these are friendless, and must return to the workhouse, unless the Association steps in to give them a fresh start in life. If to this class there be added an equal number, whose friends are too poor to do much for them, and who greatly need further assistance, it will be seen that the work of the Association is not likely to languish for want of suitable cases from the London district alone. Dr. Seward said that while well aware of the multifarious duties of the Medical Superintendents of County Asylums, he did not regard it as a hardship to fill up the necessary forms required by the Association in regard to patients leaving asylums and requiring pecuniary or other aid. He bore testimony to the benefit which the Association had conferred upon patients leaving the asylum of which he was the superintendent. He concluded by moving, "That the formation of local branches of this Association would greatly assist its work, and that a Colney Hatch branch be organized."

The Rev. F. HALL warmly supported the resolution, which was carried.

It was proposed by the Honorary Secretary, the Rev. H. HAWKINS, and seconded by Mr. PAWLE, formerly one of the Visiting Justices to the Cane Hill Asylum, and carried by acclamation, "That the kindness shown by ladies here and elsewhere towards many of the infirm in mind merits grateful recognition." The proposer of this resolution enumerated the various ways in which ladies had shown their kindness towards the infirm in mind, viz.: As lady visitors to patients during many years; the ladies' local "Dorcas Society," to make clothes for some discharged female patients; the lady correspondents, from various localities, with patients; ladies attending the London monthly meeting; and lastly, lady visitors to Cottage Homes.

Dr. EDGAR SHEPPARD had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the asylum's sub-committee for permission to hold the meeting in the asylum, and to Dr. Hack Tuke for presiding on so interesting an occasion. He said he felt a real pleasure in doing this because he had so often returned thanks in that room for kindnesses received during the many years of his superintendent-

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ship of the asylum, and because the Chairman, by his antecedents and his practical knowledge of insane life, was so admirably suited to preside over the meeting and support the Association of which the Rev. H. Hawkins was the founder and the mainspring. Dr. Sheppard was free to confess that he had not at first been very sanguine as to the success of the "After-Care." But he ought not to have had any doubts upon the matter, as the earnest Christian zeal and potential energy of Mr. Hawkins were a guarantee for the growth and progress of everything to which he put his hand.

Dr. SAVAGE seconded. Carried by acclamation.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AFTER-CARE ASSOCIATION

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Hampstead, at the house of Dr. Rayner, who occupied the chair, June 20th. Amongst those present were the Hon. Dudley Fortescue, Rev. W. St. Hill Bourne, Rev. Henry Hawkins, F. C. Pawle, J.P., Drs. E. Parker Young, S. Rees Philipps, J. Peeke Richards, Hack Tuke, Fletcher Beach, Norman Kerr, Savage, etc., etc.

The Report stated that 73 cases had been before the Committee during the year. Some had been boarded-out in Cottage Homes, grants of money and clothing had been given, and assistance had been rendered by finding suitable occupations. The number of Members and the subscriptions and donations had increased. Through the kindness of Dr. Heurtley Sankey, £20 was obtained from the profits of Sale of Work at Littlemore. Will not other Superintendents follow Dr. Sankey's example? For furnishing and fitting up a proposed Cottage Home contributions had been received to the amount of £46. The Report stated that the success and utility of the Association depended upon the warm co-operation of the Medical Superintendents of Asylums throughout England.

A number of addresses were delivered in support of the Association, and it was decided to form a branch for Hampstead and district.

[In consequence of the date of the Meeting falling so late in the quarter we are unable to give a fuller report of the proceedings.]

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Earl of Meath, the President, for allowing the Council to hold their meetings at his house, and to Dr. and Mrs. Rayner for welcoming the Members and friends of the Association at Hampstead for their Annual Meeting.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE.—COURT OF APPEAL.

(*Before the* MASTER *of the* ROLLS, LORD JUSTICE LINDLEY *and* LORD JUSTICE KAY).

HANBURY V. HANBURY.

This was an application on behalf of the husband for judgment or a new trial in a petition by the wife for a dissolution of marriage upon the ground of the adultery and cruelty of her husband. The acts of cruelty alleged were committed in 1883 and 1884, and the acts of adultery charged against him were alleged to have been committed with Fanny Young, in October, 1886, and with Alice Pullman and Emily Ireland in June, 1890. The respondent denied the acts of cruelty and adultery, and he further pleaded that when he committed the acts complained of he was a lunatic and of unsound mind and incapable of understanding the character and consequences of such acts. He further

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